

United States Gymnastics Federation's

# Gymnastics News

January • February • 1979

Vol. VIII, No. 1



Bart Conner

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# Gymnastics News

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## United States Gymnastics Federation

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# EDITORIAL

**Frank L. Bare**  
Executive Director



## **USGF will not participate in Pan-American Games . . . .**

The USGF starts 1979 with a major task before all of our membership. The first step was in Strasbourg and the second in San Paulo, but the biggest steps must come in Fort Worth, and subsequently in Moscow. We have always maintained that we have had the talented youngsters and the coaches dedicated to their development. If, in Fort Worth in December we can make another good showing, we can turn towards Moscow with greater confidence than ever before.

The USGF will not participate in the 1979 Pan-American Games set for July in San Juan, Puerto Rico. We do, however, wish the best organizing and all those who do participate the very best of luck. The gymnastics portion of the Pan-Am Games is under direct supervision of the Pan-American Confederation, which is very ably led by a number of representatives of Cuba. The decision not to take part in these Games was made by the USGF, supported by the USOC in principle and had nothing to do with political problems. The Pan-American Confederation simply could not agree upon which compulsory to use or not use — other than to make the most logical step and drop compulsories or equally logically to use the current international (Olympic) compulsories. They

created a new set of routines for the San Juan event and as recently as January of 1979 it was still not absolutely certain who will use which routines. I understand now that the men will use one set, the women two sets, (take your pick). The Games are in July.

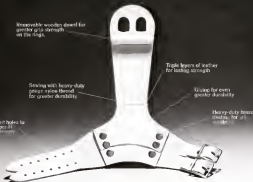
We regret to announce that Kelly McCoy (TWIGS-Dayton, Ohio) has elected to retire from active competition. One of the nation's most promising youngsters, we naturally are deeply sorry to see her retire from our program, but wish her every success in life and whatever future course she may select to follow.

The 1979 National Championships will now be used to select a squad, the number to be determined by the FRC and IRC, for training for the 1979 World Championships. Both Commissions meet in February and the next issue of the USGF NEWS will carry detailed information relative to such plans.

We congregate using qualified judges from the USA as scoring assistants at the 79 World Championships. Although they will pay their own room-board and travel to Fort Worth, they will be involved in the Championships, up close and personally, as our USGF helpers and see the WC's at no cost — and quite closely. See other articles in the next issue for all the facts on the 1979 World Championships . . . in the U.S.A.

For the U.S.G.F.

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# World Cup Competition Sees USA Place Second in Medal Production

Medal Scoreboard — USSR 15, USA 8, E. Germany 5.

Kathy Johnson  
Rhonda Schwandt  
Bart Connor  
Kurt Thomas  
Mike Wilson

Roger Council  
Steve Garlach  
Jerry Wright  
Sharon Webber

The 1979 WORLD CUP was conducted in Sao Paulo, Brazil on December 8-9-10th. Hosted by the Brazilian Gymnastics Federation and held in the largest city in South or Central America, the WORLD CUP 79 was marked by some absences, some great performances and great hospitality.

Missing from the line-up were some names from the recently concluded WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS that should have been there: Andrianovs, Kim and Muchina from the Soviet Union and Nadia Comaneci and Emilia Eberle from Romania also failed to show up for the prestigious new event on the FIG's international calendar. None-the-less, the talent was very impressive and the competition was fierce from the first day

event.... but look who grabbed second. The U.S.A. won 8 medals.... to edge out the D.D.R. (East Germany) who gathered 5 medals, and Czechoslovakia and Japan. Rhonda Schwandt.... and Kathy Johnson covered the front for women and gathered two for Rhonda and one for Kathy.... while in the men's division it was Kurt Thomas and Bart Connor, who aided by team-mate Mike Wilson, gathered in five medals. Kurt won four and Bart got in some performances that should more than have earned GOLD Medals.... they all had to settle for SILVER. But



Men's All-around U. Richardson, USSR; Delano, USSR; Thomas, USA.



Women's All-around U. Richardson, USSR; Schwandt, USA.

The U.S.A. was represented by three men and two women and they did a remarkable job. From a nation that heretofore had never won one medal in WORLD CUP competition, the USA moved to second in over-all medal standings. The U.S.S.R., in their usual powerful position won fifteen medals in the combined men's and women's

the national effort far out-shone the questionable judging and believe me after watching the last day of finals for both men and women, were quite unbelievable to watch. It was as if many of those who wrote the Code of Points decided to see if they couldn't make it obsolete in one day. Judging the first two days was good.... much better than Stronborg, but the final day was hard to describe.

Har's off to the coaches. Roger Council was right when he was needed and had the boys ready and even though it was tough on him to try to be "coach" as the three boys, working three different events at the same time, he held it together well. Mike, Bart and Kurt all had good days and in spite of some questionable scores, the level of their performance spoke for itself.... five medals.... where there used to be none. It was a great effort.

On the women's front, Steve Garlach, and Rhonda Schwandt deserve a medal for other reasons. Steve was ill, Rhonda was tired.... and look wonder.... I was going to Sao Paulo at the last minute due to business commitments here in the USA and I met the two of them, en route to Brazil, from Los Angeles, from Japan.... and it

# World Cup Competition

had been some three days of continuous travel... arriving one day before the competition began and Rhonda was superb. Not only gymnastically, but her attitude and usual warm smile and charm did much to help our national team; she is a winner... In every way Kathy Johnson didn't have her best day in two years... but she came through in her Floor routine and gathered in another world class BRONZE for the U.S.A.



Female Bars (L-R) Jozsika, USSR; Conner, USA; Gerasim, USSR

Steve and Rhonda, and Kathy all represented us well... and Jerry Wright and Sharon Weber worked on the floor as judges during the three day competition. Judging is a chore; not to be taken lightly, not only must one be well trained and qualified in judging... but ready to stand the long days, and long nights, the travel and strain... of it all... and work to be a true 'neutral' judge if at all possible in the toughest of arenas of sport.

From Sao Paulo the gymnasts went to Buenos Aires for a demonstration and then back to Rio de Janeiro for another before heading back to their respective homelands.



Male Bars (L-R) Johnson, USSR; Johnson, USSR; Shepshstein, USSR

Dutman, of the USSR won the men's all-around title by 10 over our own KURT THOMAS... and Filatova of the USSR gathered the women's title in the all-around by putting together steady performances in all the events.

In retrospect, the events were well managed... and the hosts exceptional in their efforts to conduct the event properly. Glenn Sundby was there to travel with the group and with cameras in hand he will no doubt bring back a great picture report on the entire event and series of exhibitions that followed. The results are included in this report.

Once again... it was, in spite of some definite problems in specific areas, a great event and for the USA-USGF a great and positive step forward for gymnastics. From never having won a WORLD CUP medal before to bring home 8 of them, and from moving down around fourth to fifth in standings to being second only to the powerful USSR team in total number of medals won, 1979 sounds to be a great year for the U.S.A. and we need to turn our attention immediately towards Fort Worth, Texas and Moscow... in that order.

## WOMEN'S ALL AROUND COMPETITION

1	Filatova	USSR	38.75
2	Hindorf	DDR	38.45
3	Shepshstein	USSR	38.40
4	Cerna	CSSR	38.35
5	Kraker	DDR	38.20
6	Schwandt	USA	38.05
7	Honcssek	HUN	37.95
8	Azupova	USSR	37.65
9	Marchikova	CSSR	37.60
10	Arbail	Canada	37.50
11	Carrasosa	BRA	37.35
12	Kanyo	Hungary	37.30
13	Beydlova	CSSR	37.30
14	Johnson	USA	36.80

## MEN'S ALL AROUND COMPETITION

1	Dutman	USSR	58.00
2	Thomas	USA	58.00
3	Asanin	USSR	57.80
4	Neustrom	Japan	57.60
5	Magyar	Hungary	57.40
6	Gosger	W. Germany	57.40
7	Tkachev	USSR	57.25
8	Dostal	Hungary	57.20
9	Conner	USA	57.10
10	Shimizu	Japan	56.95
11	Goren	Romania	56.45
12	Beneckner	DDR	56.45
13	Robrowsky	W. Germany	56.20
14	Wilson	USA	55.75
15	Kencs	Hungary	55.65
16	Nikolay	DDR	55.60



# WORLD CUP MEN'S INDIVIDUAL FINALS

## Vault

1. Shimizu	Japan	19.625
2. Bruckner	DDR	19.550
3. Dumin	USSR	19.425
4. Demuth	Hungary	19.275

## Parallel Bars

1. Amarian	USSR	19.350
2. Gierger	W. Germany	19.300
2. Gortner	USA	19.300
4. Thomas	USA	19.250

## Horizontal Bar

1. Gierger	W. Germany	19.750
2. Thomas	USA	19.600
3. Tkachev	USSR	19.550
3. Dumin	USSR	19.550

## Floor

1. Bruckner	DDR	19.60
2. Thomas	USA	19.55
3. Dumin	USSR	19.45
4. Wilson	USA	19.35

## Pommel Horse

1. Magyar	Hungary	19.60
2. Dumin	USSR	19.40
3. Thomas	USA	19.35
4. Gortner	USA	19.30

## Rings

1. Dumin	USSR	19.50
2. Gortner	Romania	19.40
3. Shimizu	Japan	19.35
3. Amarian	USSR	19.35

## Vault

1. Shaposhnikova	USSR	19.550
2. Schwandt	USA	19.425
3. Kriker	DDR	19.350
4. Filanova	USSR	19.300

## Uneven Bars

1. Kriker	DDR	19.550
2. Cerna	CSSR	19.450
3. Schwandt	USA	19.390
4. Bydllova	CSSR	19.250

## Mr. George Whitley, British Amateur Gymnastics Association Executive Committee, F.I.G.

Died December 29, 1978 at the age of 46.

Mr. George Whitley had two long years of an illness that he fought both bravely and with great mental strength. He was elected to the Executive Committee of the FIG in Montreal at the 1976 Olympic Games. He only had the opportunity to attend one or two meetings. His illness came immediately after the meeting at which he was elected. He came with a cane, then crutches, and then in a wheelchair. But he always came with a ready smile and a sense of humor that one could scarcely do justice to so I will not try.

His achievements within the British Gymnastics Association were numerous and always he reached for bigger and better things for our sport. He was a leader, a charming individual, and driven to work as any most of us addicted to the sports of gymnastics. Successful in business...he shared a lovely home with a loving family. His wife, Kathleen, his two sons and one daughter carry on.

I flew to Leeds, outside of London, for the funeral. It was, no doubt, the most tasteful of such sad events I have ever witnessed. A tribute to a man who succeeded at life and enjoyed it. The gymnastics community was there, his business associates and friends were all there. Gymnastics lost a great friend, as did many of us.

Frank L. Bese  
USGF

# WORLD CUP WOMEN'S INDIVIDUAL FINALS

## Balance Beam

1. Cerna	CSSR	19.350
2. Shaposhnikova	USSR	19.300
3. Agapova	USSR	19.350
4. Horvack	Hungary	19.050

## Floor

1. Filanova	USSR	19.650
2. Shaposhnikova	USSR	19.600
3. Johnson	USA	19.550
4. Schwandt	USA	19.400
1. Hirdard	DDR	19.300



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# Barcelona Invitational

Joaquin Blume Memorial Competition

Robin Netwall

## Coaches:

Robin Netwall

## Gymnasts:

Francis Allen

Sandy Wirth

Paul Simon

Barcelona is a very old, yet very vibrant town that lies on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea. There are no high rise apartments or ultra modern buildings in the city. Some of the streets are cobblestone and at the center square there is a huge water display where hundreds of people gather both day and night. It is a gorgeous city.

These were my first impressions of Barcelona as we toured the city. Sandy and I flew to Barcelona, Spain, on December 6, 1978, to attend the Memorial Joaquin Blume Gymnastic Competition. The meet was scheduled for December 10. The two days prior to the competition we toured the city and trained with the gymnasts from the other countries. The other countries that competed were: Romania, Spain, Hungary, Russia, France, Poland, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia.

The two days of training went very well. We were taken to the competitive gym and given three hours to work out. This was plenty of time since there were only twelve girls in the meet. The facility, Polaco Municipal De Los Deportes, was very big. It was very similar to one of our collegiate arenas. The equipment was not too bad. The bars were cable, the beam was a home-made padded beam, the boards were wood, and the floor was a routine.

After the first two days of training I was not very impressed with the level of difficulty. The most difficult routines were done by Russia, U.S.A., Romania, Czechoslovakia, in that order of difficulty. Some of the skills were Beam: two backhandsprings, layout, round-off back tuck, round-off doubleback dismount. Bars: giant, full pikesomers, fly away layout full, toe on front with a half dismount. Floor: double back tuck and pike. Vault: pike tuck, layout tuck. I think that Sandy's beam routine was by far the most difficult. Also, on floor most girls only did a layout for the last run and front somers for the middle pass. The composition of the floors was not outstanding all except for the little Czech girl. She had a very abstract floor.

The day of the competition started with a reception at the mayor's headquarters, then a tour through some of the municipal buildings. We were then taken to the gym. The gymnasts had an open workout then were marched off the floor. The opening ceremonies started with all the gymnasts marching in behind their flag, then each gymnast was introduced. After all the introductions the gymnasts were divided into two groups of six and group A started on vault, then group B followed in Olympic order. I felt the scores were high, except when it came to

the United States. Sandy's routines were by far the most difficult routines thrown next to the Russian, but for some reason, did not receive credit for the difficulty. Sandy had a little difficulty on beam and bars but did very well on floor and vault and did not receive very high scores. There were a few misses on beam and bars.

The meet ran very smoothly. At the closing ceremonies each gymnast was presented a statue and flowers. The top three girls: Russia-38.00, Poland-37.55, Czechoslovakia-37.05, all received trophies. After the meet we all attended a banquet at a very nice restaurant. All the gymnasts and coaches were presented with a book on Barcelona, pins, and a Spanish ship. The banquet lasted about two hours.

The next day we went to one of the gymnastic clubs and gave a three hour clinic on certain skills. We also went over the Olympic compulesories and helped them with creative skills and strength. The girls were very attentive and eager to learn.

The following day we started our long journey home. I feel this competition was a great experience and a most memorable one.



Sandy Wirth

## FINALS

1. Larus Dejtiareva	USSR	38.00
2. Anna Jokiel	Pol.	37.55
3. Mariana Petruva	CSSR	37.05
4. Daniela Bredescu	Rom.	36.85
5. Erika Cobony	Hung.	36.65
6. Gloria Vireas	Spain	36.30
7. Elena Marcos	Spain	36.15
8. Valerie Faudrino	France	35.95
9. Maya Biner	Swiz.	35.85
10. Alenka Zupencic	Yugos.	35.70
11. Sandy Wirth	U.S.A.	35.00
12. Margarita Cananova	Spain	34.90

# Chunichi Cup

**Jerry Todd**  
Delegation Chief

The 1978 Chunichi Cup was an outstanding opportunity for me as I served as Delegation Chief, Coach and Judge for the United States. It gave me a chance to deal with some of the most gracious and generous people in the world. The kindness of the Japanese is outstanding. They constantly went out of their way to please our delegation and to present our competitors with small gifts.

We arrived at Tokyo Airport on Thursday, November 24, after an eleven hour plane ride and then took a two hour train ride to Nagoya. We had lost Thanksgiving on the plane because of the time change. No turkey or trainings for us.

We competed in the Chunichi Cup Friday and Saturday and our performers still appeared to be tired and affected by jet lag. Tim LaFleur (Alternate on the World Games Team) was our only male competitor and competed well on vaulting, rings, and high bar. Rhonda Schwandt won the vault, 2nd in uneven, 8th on floor (missed her double back) and 5th on beam (missed her press). Donna Turnbow was 9th on floor with a 9.0, 5th in uneven with a 9.5, 11th in vault with a 9.2, and fell off beam for a 9.0. Rhonda ended up 5th in the All Around and Darydova of Russia was the winner with a 9.75 average.

We then proceeded to Yokohama where we did an exhibition which was very well received. Most of the routines were watched down as the gym was freezing and the floor was very hard (They have very few gyms in Japan with heaters of any kind).

We then proceeded to Tokyo for the Tokyo Elite International where our girls stole the show. Rhonda won the Uneven with a 9.75. She won the Floor with an excellent routine and 9.85. She was 2nd on beam with a 9.7, and 5th on vaulting (She lead after her first vault, but tried a Sukahara with a full twist for her second vault and missed it somewhat so it was the first time she had tried this vault in competition - 9.475). Donna scored a 9.7 on Floor, 9.65 on Uneven, and 9.2 on beam and 9.375 on vaulting.

The Russians said that they feel we are the coming country in gymnastics. Rhonda Schwandt was especially invited to this meet and she did not disappoint. They even had her picture on the cover of the program for both meets. What a thrill to an American on the cover of the program for the Chunichi Cup and Tokyo International.

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## Technical Report

competition with their exceptionally solid and extremely well-disciplined performances on the balance beam. High score with a 9.85 and an airless off by herself was Natsushima. Doycheva was next with a 9.75 followed by Kananashita with a 9.6. Natsushima's routine consisted of straddle split leap, two consecutive front aerials, two consecutive 1-arm back handsprings alternating hands (1/2 back walkover, back handspring, layout step-out, and back handspring), back handspring double piked dismount. Doycheva performed a straddle press mount on the end, back back, back walkover, pike back handspring, a 1-arm handstand, and a full twisting dive from chinstand (a la Korbut). Kananashita mounted straddle press from the side, side straddle immediate back handspring, three back handsprings and dismounted with a round off full twist.

As personally stated consistent performances is what we need today and consistent performances is what we got... unfortunately in the wrong direction. For Rhonda and Donna, both had major breaks in their floor exercise performances. Rhonda began by opening up short on her double back mount and consequently had to put her hands down. The rest of the routine was fairly strong from flip round-off, arabian round off, full twist for a second pass, and a double twist chinstand for 9.75. Donna also had trouble with her mount in that she over rotated a double twist and continued with a round-off 1 1/2 twist step-out, round-off back handspring back for a second pass, and dismounted with a double twist for a score of 9.0. The two East German girls, Sabi 9.8 and Giesack 9.75, had fine routines to move into 5th and 6th places respectively in the all-around. Sabi performed with good floor qualities and finished with a back double back, a slow piked double twist, and dismounted with a layout step-out. Giesack also mounted with a double back back and then performed a round-off, back handspring, arabian step-out round off, back handspring double twist, and then another double twist for a dismount. Natsushima, like Rhonda, dismounted from a twist as well as with a 9.8 and moved into a 2nd place tie for the all-around with teammate Kananashita. She began floor right where she left off on beam, two back handsprings and a double piked back, her second pass was a round off, three back handsprings, and lay-out step-out with the first two back handsprings being 1-arm and alternating hands, she dismounted with a full twist back handspring and was absolutely dynamic in her presentation. As mentioned, Kananashita tied for 2nd on the A.A. with a final score of 9.35. She mounted with a low double twist, then finished a round off back handspring, whip over back handspring, full twist and dismounted with another double twist. Doycheva, the A.A. winner and most consistent gymnast with her third score of 9.35, performed a double twist, a full twist back handspring, and finished a little weak with another full twist.

One week later, 12/2 & 3 at the Tokyo International Gymnastics meet, the event finals for the Chusaku Cup International were held. Preliminary scores from the A.A. competition were not carried over and everyone got to compete in all events with the exception of hosting two gymnasts per country in each event.

In vaulting finish (two different vaults required), there were three differently executed vaults that hadn't been demonstrated in the A.A. competition. From the A.A. competition, there were two handsprings for an average score of 9.56 two back handspring full twist for an average of 9.32, one vaults with two layout one averaging 9.4, two tucked averaging 9.5 and two piked averaging 9.31. In both the vaulting finish, Doycheva performed a full on full off that was a little out of control, sloppy and arching with a handspring down then again was archy but the landing was such solid. Natsushima vaulted handspring piked from with an excessive amount of arch on the preflight and a lay out technique that demonstrated more pike than lay out for a second place finish. Rhonda scored 9.1 on her

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handgrip from and then attempted a full twisting backflip for her second vault. Rushing that full twist and not rotating enough rotation, she unfortunately had to put her hands down for a 9.2 and a 9th place finish.

In the uneven bars competition, Rhonda hit extremely well for a 9.55 and a tie with Barydova for first place honors. Barydova added and executed a good Connected scissor on flip between the bars. Katsurashika, who seems to be the only one of the three Russian girls who has the bar settings properly set, demonstrated with a double flyaway.

Bolander beam remained pretty much the same as in the A.A. competition with Natsushina duplicating her preliminary performance at 9.8. Rhonda scored on for a 2nd place finish at 9.7, tied with Gnauck who performed two standing back, a double back dismount, and some weak dance qualities. Barydova attempted a front flip mount and sat down on the beam for a .5 deduction.

Floor exercise, the last event, saw Rhonda at 9.85 and Dornas at 9.7 with outstanding routines for first and 4th place finishes respectively. Rhonda nailed her double back while Dornas was consistent with her double vaults. Gnauck and Katsurashika tied for 2nd at 9.8 with Katsurashika showing a piked double back (interesting is that I hadn't seen her do any in the two weeks of training and competition and would not have thought her to be capable of doing the skill - not a power tandem). Natsushina stepped out of the sets and received a deduction for 9.65. One last note and that is the Russians used orchestrated 8 beat exercise music as their routine.

## Boy's Junior Olympic Program

All gymnasts who compete in USGF Jr. Olympic Program must register from Jan. 1, 1979. Contact your state chairman immediately for more information. Registration fee is \$2.00 per gymnast.

1979

### Boy's Jr. Olympic

### National Championships

The Boy's Jr. Olympic Championships will be held at the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York, on July 6 and 7, 1979. For more information, contact Ned Crossley (914) 938-3802.

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# Modern Rhythmic Gymnastics

## Four Continents Championships

Toronto, Canada  
November 1-6, 1978

### Annelis Strange Hoyman

The above-mentioned championship was originally named the Pan Pacific Championship and initiated by Mrs. Evelyn Koop of Canada to serve as a parallel to the European Championship, which is closed to all countries outside of Europe. However, since its potential participants might come from countries other than those bordering the Pacific Ocean (such as Israel and Iran), the term Four Continents Championship was considered more appropriate at the FIG Congress held in October of 1978. Under this name the championship is approved by FIG as an official international meet for the sport.

The number of countries participating was small with only Australia, Brazil, Canada, Mexico, New Zealand and the United States being represented. As in the case of the World Championship in Madrid, Spain, it was again international politics which partly, directly or indirectly, influenced the participation.

For the United States this championship was especially of interest, since it was the first time our country would be represented in the group competition. In preparation for this championship two separate training camps had taken place prior to the championship participation. In the month of August, a three week training camp with a total of seventeen gymnasts took place at the United States Olympic Training Center at Squaw Valley, California. The main purpose of the camp was to develop and learn a group routine for six hoops. A total of fourteen gymnasts were involved in the group project, and of these, six gymnasts and an alternate were chosen to comprise our first national team, together with the individual gymnasts selected.

The two "head" coaches, Maria Bakos (group) and Alla Svirsky (individual), did a magnificent job of coaching. Maria Bakos with the able assistance of several younger coaches (Candace Feinberg, Barbara Purcher, and Nora Veyene).

Since the gymnasts comprising the national team originated from all over the country, it was deemed necessary to have a second training camp immediately preceding the participation in the Championship. This camp took place in Detroit, Michigan, from October 24-31, and was sponsored by the Detroit Department of Parks and Recreation, headed by Dr. Leon Atkinson, and organized by Mrs. Geraldine Hilliard, the Michigan State Chairperson for Modern Rhythmic Gymnastics. The training was with the gymnasts at the Broadhead Naval Armory. The facilities were adequate except for the matter of floor covering. With both individual and group gymnasts practicing, two floor areas, both with floor covering, should have been provided in order to allow the gymnasts maximum opportunity of practice.



Sue Solle

Shortly before departing for Toronto, the team participated in a benefit performance together with the Detroit Metro Gymnasts, directed by Vladimir and Zinaida Mironov. The performance included aerobic gymnastics, acroport routines, rhythmic group gymnastics, as well as several individual Modern Rhythmic Gymnastics routines performed by members of the delegation to the Four Continents Championship, and but not least the first public performance of the group routine. The capacity crowd of over 1200 observers with many of Detroit's high city officials included was obviously impressed by the individual performances by Sue Solle, Lydia Bree and Toby Turner, as well as the world premiere of the group routine.

All the visiting participants in the Four Continents Championship arrived in Toronto on November 1, and all were housed at the Holiday Inn in Eglwicks as guests of the Canadian Modern Gymnastics Federation. Each country had been invited to bring four individual gymnasts, as well as a group of six (plus alternate), however, only Brazil, Canada, and the United States were represented with a group. The program was the same as for the up-coming European Championship with rope, ball, and ribbon exercises for the individual competition and hoops for the group competition.

Photo by David A. Morgan





Lydia Bee

Photos by David L. Hargrove

Before the actual competition the gymnasts had a chance for a very brief practice session in the gymnasium, where the competition was to take place. The competition, with a total of three separate programs, took place in the beautiful Etobicoke Olympium, Canada's finest multi-purpose centre for amateur sports and recreation. Each program included the gymnasts' march in, a brief welcome by Mrs. Evelyn Koopon behalf of FOG, presentation of flowers, followed by introduction of the judges and the jury of appeal. The United States team was fortunate to have the executive director of United States Gymnastics Federation, Frank Barr, as one of the members of the jury of appeal.

The preliminaries, which took place Friday morning and evening, were organized in such a way, that no gymnast had to perform more than twice at each session; yet, at the same time all three events (rope, ball and ribbon) were competed in at each session for the added interest of the audience.

From the very beginning it was apparent that the host country was the favorite; the Canadians have been involved in rhythmic and modern rhythmic gymnastics much longer than the United States and Australia for instance, and they could be expected to be ahead of the rest

of the participating countries. However, although the over-all scoring was fair and with relatively few scores given in the 9 to 10 range, the rankings were in several instances not quite fair, a fact that was reflected in a preponderance of protests, which helped up the proceedings time and again.

Canada's National co-champions of 1978, Kelly Moligan and Jana Lauer, and the Bronze Medalist Delilah Bryant, were clean lacers. However, they were all strongly challenged by the United States three time National Champion Sue Solle. With her third place for ribbon (and tied for second place with Jana Lauer in the rope event), Sue won the All Around Bronze medal only 0.4 and 0.2 points behind Bryant and Lauer - a similar accomplishment of which we all can be very proud!

As mentioned earlier, the United States appeared in group competition for the first time. Canada and Brazil had competed in previous World Championships, and we had of course no dreams of defeating the Canadian team, which had worked together since Basel, while our group had had a total of four weeks of work together, starting from scratch!

During the first performance the American Group did quite a well compared to the Brazilians, but by the second round, the Brazilians, who had a very exciting routine with difficult exchanges, improved tremendously performance-wise, and they narrowed the score difference significantly. We realized, that our performance as the finals had to be without many mistakes, if we wanted to win second place.

At the finals which took place Saturday evening the bleachers of the gymnasium were filled to capacity. A large group of Americans, especially from Detroit, as well as parents and home coaches of some of the gymnasts, had arrived to support our team. The group event took place first with United States gymnasts appearing first in the arena. Considering, however, that this was their first appearance as a group, and considering the short time they had had to develop and work together on the routine, the group, as well as their coach, deserve our applause. Congratulations to Lydia Bee, Suzanne Bowman, Ellen Garlick, Wendy Hilliard, Toby Turner, Shelley Uggason, and Valerie Von Holst, and last, but not least to their coach, Maria Bakula!

In the finals, Sue Solle received an 8.95 for her rope performance, which resulted in a third place tie for Sue and Canada's Moligan. In the ball event Sue's performance was incorrectly scored 0.5 less than it should have been for a nearly flawless executed routine, presented with flair and elegance; however, a protest helped to adjust her score, so that she won her third Bronze medal in the competition, again with Bryant and Lauer taking the Gold and Silver medals. Lydia Bee and Freitas tied for fifth place, while Karen Ho, who had done so well in the preliminaries, lost her ball several times and received the lowest score given in the finals for ball.

Sue's final moment arrived with her beautiful performance of her ribbon routine, which earned her the best score in the finals, closely followed by Clerk of New Zealand and Lauer of Canada. Both Bryant and Moligan, who earned the top scores in the preliminaries in that event, met with bad luck and lost valuable points. As a result Sue, with her third place position, and only 0.05

*Continued*

## Modern Rhythmic

below Morgan, won her first Gold medal in international competition. Congratulations to Sue, as well as to her coach, Alla Svirsky, to a total of three Bronze medals and one Gold medal! For the audience it was indeed a pleasure to listen to the United States' National Anthem being played for the first time in international competition in MRG. Browwyn Clark of New Zealand was narrowly defeated by Lutz and was the Bronze Medalist in the ribbon event.

All in all the performances were good, and the gymnasts deserved the repeated applause from the appreciative audience.

And so the first Four Continents Championship came to an end, it was a nice opportunity for participation in international competition on basis, hopefully many more countries outside of Europe will take advantage of taking part in the next championship in this hemisphere, so that the level of competition can be raised as well.

## THE RESULTS

### All Around

	Rope	Ball	Ribbon	Total
1. Debbie Bryant (Canada)	8.90	8.85	8.90	26.65
2. Jane Lutz (Canada)	8.75	9.30	8.80	26.85
3. Sue Solie (USA)	8.75	8.85	8.75	26.35
4. Browwyn Clark (New Zealand)	8.40	8.75	8.65	25.80
5. Kelly McGinnis (Canada)	8.60	8.30	8.90	25.80
6. Lydia Bro (USA)	8.40	8.60	8.50	25.50
7. Tobe Turner (USA)	8.45	8.60	8.30	25.35
8. Karen Ho (Australia)	8.35	8.80	8.00	25.15

### Group Scores

1. Canada	36.00
2. Brazil	32.85
3. USA	31.25

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**Modern Rhythmic Gymnastics**  
Excellent routines have been filmed on the Soviet team during their U.S.A. tour. Film covers complete routines of rope, ball, (2) hoops, clubs, and ribbon (2). Super 8 in color. In stock. #30 — 210 ft. — \$20.00 Post.

## Frank Endo

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## Boy's Junior National Team Trains At Squaw Valley

The Olympic Training Center in Squaw Valley hosted the Annual United States Gymnastic Federation competition, training, and evaluation for ranking to the United States Jr. National team.

Age groups from 10-14 and 15-18 years old performed optional exercises in the six olympic gymnastic events: Floor exercise, Pommel Horse, Rings, Long Horse Vaulting, Parallel Bars and Horizontal Bar events were evaluated by the U.S.F.G. Men's Director, Mr. Mas Watanabe and his staff.

Boys in the 10-14 year old age group who made the team are Sam Beniaminin from Akron, Ohio, twins Don and Dennis Hayden from Buffalo, New York, Dave Quicha from Reading, Pennsylvania, and Chris Riegel also of Reading, Pennsylvania. This age group will be allowed to participate in only special events of International Competition designated by the International Relations Committee of the United States Gymnastics Federation (IRG).

Junior team members in the 15-18 year old age group who qualified for team membership are eligible for regular International Competition. The United States hosted Japan's Touring Team in Eugene, Oregon on January 14, 1979. Boys from the Olympic Training Center qualifying for this meet are Peter Stout of Tucson, Arizona, Jim Mikos, of Reading, Pennsylvania, and Roy Palacios of San Jose, California.

Mark Casso, of East Syracuse, New York and Roy Palacios of San Jose, California, will represent the United States Jr. National Team in the South African Cup in Cape Town during February 19 - March 5, 1979.

Members Peter Stout of Tucson, Arizona and Jim Mikos of Reading, Pennsylvania will tour the U.S.S.R. to compete in the Moscow News, Riga International March 20 - April 3, 1979.



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## High School Gymnasts Featured In McDonald's Meet

The nation's top high school gymnasts will be featured in the fifth annual McDonald's National High School All-Around Invitational, on Saturday, April 28, 1979.

The competition will hopefully feature many of the future Olympians in both men's and women's gymnastics. The performers will be able to compete with other outstanding high school age gymnasts, in what will for many be the first such competition against their peers of equal ability.

The meet is open to all high school age men and women who work in the all-around area. Men must be able to score a minimum of 8.5 in each of the six events, women must score 8.5 or better in their four events. Nominations can come from any level and must be accompanied by verified score sheets and team lists of routines. Women with official ranking should send their rank in lieu of film. Final selections will be made prior to March 12, 1979.

The meet is sponsored by the Chicagoland McDonald's Restaurants and Porter Athletic Equipment Co., Schiller Park, Ill. Further information can be obtained from Sid Dean (312) 827-4076.



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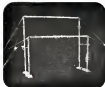
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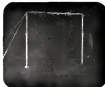
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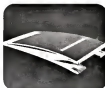
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# World Championship Judging Report

## Delene Darst

**Selection of Judges:** For the first time in World Championship competition the selection of judges was done by a draw.

For the compulsory competition the top 10 teams from Montreal automatically received a judging position. The remaining 6 positions were drawn from the 17 other countries who had judges at the competition. They were Finland, Belgium, Austria, Yugoslavia, Norway, and Holland. Following this draw the event draw took place. Each judge from the 16 countries took a number from a bag, and this number indicated the event you received. Numbers 1-4 was vault, numbers 5-8 were uneven bars, numbers 9-12 balance beam, and numbers 13-16 floor. I drew No. 6 which meant I was judge No. 2 for Compulsory Uneven Bars.

The compulsory panels were:

Vault	Uneven Bars
1. Bulgaria	3. Japan
2. Hungary	6. USA
3. Finland	7. Romania
4. West Germany	8. Belgium
Balance Beam	Floor
9. Yugoslavia	13. USSR
10. East Germany	14. Austria
11. Norway	15. Canada
12. Holland	16. Czechoslovakia

The positions of line judges, and times were also drawn. They were Australia and Israel as timers, Spain and Poland as line judges.

The same procedures were followed for optionals or Competition I-B with the only difference being in the top ten teams. The positions now were based on Competition I-A so Bulgaria no longer automatically had a judge on the floor. Instead it was Poland. The other six positions were drawn from countries who had not judged during I-A. They were Spain, Israel, Italy, Great Britain, Switzerland, and Denmark.

In addition the head judges rotated so that the same FIG WTC member did not judge the same event twice.

In competition I-B the draw for auxiliary judges resulted in the following:

Counting mounts and dismounts on beam - Finland  
Counting mounts and dismounts on UB - Bulgaria  
Counting vaults - Portugal  
Timers - France and Austria  
Line Judges - Belgium and Australia

After the countries were decided then the draw for events took place in the same manner as for I-A. I drew No. 7 which meant I was judge No. 3 on uneven bars.

### Vault

1. Spain
2. Hungary
3. Canada
4. Japan

### Balance Beam

9. Poland
10. Great Britain
11. Switzerland
12. Romania

### Uneven Bars

5. Israel
6. Italy
7. USA
8. East Germany

### Floor

13. West Germany
14. Czechoslovakia
15. Denmark
16. USSR

In competition II the same procedure occurred. The countries with gymnastics competing automatically received a judging position. All other positions were drawn. The draw for events then occurred and was handled exactly as for competition I-A and I-B. Margit Treiber judged competition II for the USA and she drew No. 6 which meant she was judge No. 2 on Uneven bars.

For competition III all neutral judges were used and they were drawn. The countries which had competitors in the finals but not all events received a judging position. The USA did not have a finalist in beam so I was assigned as judge No. 1 for balance beam. Czechoslovakia was assigned as No. 1 on vault and Hungary No. 1 on Floor. All other positions were drawn and were:

Vault	Uneven Bars
1. Czechoslovakia	1. France
2. Holland	2. Great Britain
3. Italy	3. Switzerland
4. Poland	4. West Germany
Balance Beam	Floor
1. USA	1. Hungary
2. Canada	2. Denmark
3. Japan	3. Portugal
4. Belgium	4. Australia

Every country who had a qualified judge at the Competition had a judging responsibility for at least one of the four competitions.

It was by far the most fair way of selecting judges to date in World Competition. All the FIG WTC was concerned about having a fair and accurately judged competition. It was not perfect, but the best in history of World Competition.

### Results of Competition

The fact that the USA drew Uneven Bars for three competitors and that event proved to be our best (third in the world (96.9) only to Russia 97.9 and Romania 96.25) is hopefully coincidental. Uneven bars was the USA's best event in terms of performance and they received their best scores there.

*Continued...*

# U.S.S.R. TOUR . . . 1979

The men's and women's gymnastics team from the U.S.S.R. made an arduous tour of the United States in January of this year. One can scarcely say enough about the efforts on the part of the gymnasts and leaders who made up this delegation. The tour was arranged and promoted by Rick Appleman, and handled in his usual expert manner. The weather was unbelievably bad in four or five stops out of the . . . TEN CITY tour. Ten cities, in some 18 days. Performances sometimes back to back with travel in between.

There were some problems. Nelli Kim, the most recognizable of the Soviet women was scheduled to appear and her name was given to us and included on the visa application for that we approved. Then a stomach condition that would have allowed her to come for one or two performances, but not ten in a row, caused her

to be dropped from the delegation. Naturally, many of the press representatives felt it was unfair not to have



Photo 41. From left to right, Nelli Kim, Andriana and Elena Mukhina of the U.S.S.R. touch the U.S.'s Liberty Bell during their visit to Philadelphia.

## Judging Technical Report (Con't)

Their weakest performances came in beam and the lowest scores, especially in compulsories. Compulsory beam team score was 45.35 which placed us 9th. Optional beam was better with 46.85 which placed us tied for 5th. Overall on beam we were 7th on beam.

Compulsory vaulting was another weak area for the USA. Our highest came from Rhonda and Kathy with 9.45. The scores might have been a little low, but our vault lacked the flight and dynamics of the better compulsory vaults. The optional vaults of the USA (58.35) were second only to Russia 48.90, and Rhonda Schwarz's optional layout tuckahua was considered by the judges as the best in the meet along with Nelli Kim's. Both competitions scored 9.9. Rhonda's fourth place in vaulting was solely a result of a 9.45 in compulsory.

On floor exercise the USA routines were correct in form but overall lacked the ultimate in positions. We were the 6th team after compulsories on floor only 1 behind Hungary but 13 behind Russia. Our gymnasts need more work on amplitude and virtuosity of movement. In optional floor we held 5th position 1.7 behind first place Russia. Our tumbling difficulty held its own, but again we lacked the ultimate in amplitude and virtuosity of movement. Kathy Johnson showed this in her performance but lacked the highest of difficulty. Nelli Kim and Elena Mukhina showed both the difficulty and virtuosity of movement.

The American women's team performed with style. They made a very good impression on all those at the competition, in terms of their performance and the potential they showed. Each and every team member contributed to the success of the team and to those who cheered as individuals. It was a thrill and honor to have been part of this experience, and to share the thrill of victory with this fine group of young women.

her with the delegation. We wanted her, obviously, but her health is of the utmost importance. The gymnasts who made the tour included Elena Mukhina, Nicolai Andrianov, Alexandre Duziatin, and many other great gymnasts including Davidova and one most little lady we had never heard of, Stella Zacharova. Watch for her name in late 1979, though on every event including a piked double back to open her floor exercise routine — out of a running front sommy piked into a round off. Then she finished with another tucked double back — and we've never seen one performed any higher at either end of the routine.

The team appeared in Baltimore, Philadelphia, New Haven, Dayton, Ohio, Indianapolis, Univ. of Illinois, Michigan St., Detroit, Notre Dame and then wound up the tour at the Tarrant County Convention Center in Fort Worth, Texas — site of the coming '79 World Championships. The gymnast and leaders were exceptionally hard-working, and did their best under difficult situations. The storms and snow they fought in the mid-West were a challenge in themselves. — then the crowds dropped to less than 1/3rd of what we expected, but the show, and it was a show, went on.

These tours have proven successful in years past. This one was successful, although financially injured by the terrible weather, and resulting small crowds. Nonetheless it accomplished the goal intended and we will continue to seek such tours for promotion and fundraising in the future — even though we concentrate on competitive events during 1979 and the first half of 1980.

# USA vs. Japan

Bill Ballester

For the second time in as many years, Eugene, Oregon hosted the Japanese and American teams in international competition, this time the 1979 version featuring 2 Olympic hopefuls of the future. Our country selected some of its most promising young gymnasts, as did the Japanese, which included for them three collegiate and three high school gymnasts. They came prepared to demonstrate why the Japanese have so long dominated the international scene in men's gymnastics. They were definitely favored over the much younger and less experienced U.S. team. However, in the spirit of international competition, the Americans were determined to compete at their best and hope for another upset victory like the 1976 meet in Oregon.

## Floor Exercises

There have never been so many doubles performed on floor in any one meet! Sotomura, the eventual event winner with a 9.70, did three himself, beginning with a full in double, coming back with a layout pike double, and ending with a piked double. Yamawaki was second with a 9.55. His set also included three doubles. He initiated with tremendous layout double, came back with full in double (unfortunately he put his hands down), and finished with tucked double. Jim Hartung was third with a 9.50; he had some trouble on the landing of his twisting double back, but nailed his double dismount. All but one of the twelve competitors did at least one double, including all seniors, from tucked, piked, layout, full in, full out, full in, full out, for a total of fifteen doubles by eleven competitors.

After Floor Exercise: Japan 47.00, USA 46.00

## Pommel Horse

We felt that we had an edge on pommel horse and could even the score, however, due to a combination of Japanese depth and a couple of U.S. breaks, Japan increased its lead by outscoring us 45.40 to 45.05.

Phil Cahoy did an outstanding job scoring a 9.65 to win the event. Phil's new single pommel combinations are extraordinary. Had he not been a little loose on his dismount, I'm sure he would have approached a 9.8. Jim Hartung followed with a strong 9.50 and an excellent set. The Japanese were did not work with the flair and amplitude of Cahoy, but did show some originality with numerous hops from one arm of the horse to another.

After Pommel Horse: Japan 92.80, USA 91.65

## Still Rings

Rings were very strong for the Japanese with very explosive ring work (although a little shaky on handstands). There was very little originality, but many twisting double dismounts. Yamawaki won with a 9.70, followed by Hartung's 9.60. After that the best four performers were bunched with Sotomura at 9.55, Christensen and Iwasata at 9.45, and Kanda at 9.35.

After Rings: Japan 138.60, USA 135.05

## Vaulting

Surprisingly, this was to be the only event that the American team won, led by Hartung's super front out handspring front (9.70). Next a 9.60 layout round-off back, Palamou with a 9.45 and very "big" handspring front and Cahoy at 9.50 and Christensen at 9.20.

The Japanese responded with a 9.75 by Yamawaki to tie Hartung, followed by Kanda at 9.58, Sotomura 9.55, Iwasata 9.20 and Yuzuki 9.15.

After Vaulting: Japan 46.90, USA 45.85, 45.30

University of Oregon  
Eugene, Oregon



Peter Staut

## Parallel Bars

Parallel bars proved to be the decisive event, as Japan moved ahead almost two points, to open a near 3.0 lead. Again Cahoy led all competitors with a 9.70, his set extremely virtuous, as he dismounted with a very high double back. After Phil the Japanese dominated, showing two or three hand grips, a one and a half front toss, and some really explosive swing. Yamawaki and Sotomura tied at 9.55, followed by Kanda at 9.40 and Kendo and Uzuki at 9.30. Peter Staut scored a fine 9.55, but Hartung (9.25), Christensen (8.70), Mikus (8.65), and Palamou (8.65) all had problems.

After Parallel Bars: Japan 43.30, USA 40.95, 40.65.

## High Bar

As usual, high bar was a great final event, and Phil Cahoy put forth his third winning effort, although he did share the limelight with Sotomura, both at 9.65. Phil "hang" his full in double back dismount a little, which took away a tenth or so from an otherwise flawless set. There were many new, near new, and exciting moves on high bar, a couple dismounted by Sotomura, Staut's front semi-scratch, a couple of reverse bars by the Japanese, and in general a very exciting event conclusion. Once again the Japanese edged the U.S.A.

After High Bar: Japan 47.40, USA 47.15. Final Team Score: Japan 281.55, USA 278.10

## All-around

All-around was very close. Yamawaki led the field with a fine 57.30, followed closely by Sotomura and Cahoy at 57.10 and 57.00 respectively, and Jim Hartung at 56.65.

## Closing remarks

It is indeed a credit to the U.S.G.F. and Miss Watanabe for the excellent job they are doing in promoting the U.S.A. age group program, especially when two collegiate gymnasts (Hartung and Christensen) combined with four high school gymnasts can compete almost evenly with Japan's best. For Staut, Mikus and Palamou it is the beginning of many most outstanding meets. For Hartung and Cahoy it is another indication that they are rated on a level with the world's best gymnasts. For Christensen it was an opportunity to represent the United States in international competition and an experience he will never forget.



# Women's Committee

Linda Chencinski  
USGF Women's Committee Executive Board Meeting  
September 27, 1978 Congress  
Sheraton, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Chairman, Linda Chencinski

## I. Roll Call

### A. Voting Members

Chairman - Linda Chencinski

Regional Chairmen

I - Shirley Ruhlman

II - Kat Gutierrez

III - Mary Ann Mahoney

IV - Connie Robinson

V - Carol Ledlie

VI - Linda Chencinski (proxy for Groat)

VII - Ruth Ann McBride

VIII - Wilma Guy

Judges Training Committee Chairman - Cheryl Grace  
Women's Technical Committee Chairman - Delene Darr  
Modern Rhythmic Gymnastics Chairman - Norma Zabala  
(Absent: MAGDD - David Neal, NEED - Bill Strauss)

### B. Non-voting Guests

USGF Vice-President for Women - Sue Amstutz  
Recording Secretary - Connie Malsey

## II. Operating Code Amendments

### A. Article III - Membership

A new membership procedure has been initiated. It includes two types of memberships: A voting and a non-voting membership.

The membership procedures and forms were accepted with the addition of the following statements:

1. Section A - add #5, membership may be individual or club, but only one vote per membership.
2. Section C - #2: a membership poll will be sent to the appropriate members concerning issues for which input is requested.
3. Section D - Add opening code and non-voting membership card to non-voting membership list.

### B. FIG Women's Technical Committee Members

Any member of the FIG Women's Technical Committee shall be a member of the USGF Women's Technical Committee in an advisory capacity. At this time Mrs. Peis on the FIG Technical Committee.

### C. Qualifications for Regional Chairmen

1. The Regional Chairman must be a USGF Women's Committee member who has served on a National Committee for a minimum of two years.
2. Or NARGL or USGF State or Regional Chairman for a minimum of two years.

## III. National Chairman of Elite and Junior Olympic Age Group Development Committee

Bill Strauss and David Neal presently are working as both National Directors and Regional Directors. Due to the amount of work involved as a National Chairman, it was decided that Region VII and VIII would elect a REDD and MAGDD. This would allow Mr. Strauss and Mr. Neal to be able to function at the National level. Each Regional Chairman will hold an election for a new REDD and MAGDD.

## IV. Residential Requirements for Regional Personnel

Regional personnel must reside within their respective regions.

## V. Junior Olympic National Championship

The USGF believes that a championship competition should be a quality meet with a small number of gymnasts which:

- a. Provides for audience appeal.
- b. Allows for consistent and quality judging.
- c. Highlights the winners on each event and All-Around.

In light of the philosophy of the Governing Council - The Executive Committee gave the following directives to the J.O. Age Group Development Committee for 1980:

The National Championship should be a quality meet for the most outstanding elite gymnasts and should include 40 Juniors (20 from the East, 20 from the West) and 40 Seniors (20 from the East, 20 from the West).

## VI. Regional Chairman - Finance

A. Memberships: Dues will be allocated in the following manner - \$3.00 to Regional Chairman, \$3.00 to State Chairman, remainder to National Office.

B. Sanctions: 100% of sanction fees goes to Regional Chairman.

### Two types of Sanctions:

1. Single Sanction - Fee \$5.00. Sanctions are met below State level. Sanction fees for higher level meets are as follows: State - \$10, Regional - \$15, Zone Elite meets - \$15, Class I East/West, National and National Elite Qualifying Meets - \$25.

2. Seasonal Sanction - Women's Committee members may apply for a seasonal sanction for all district/triangular meets below the State level for \$25. Due date to be specified by the Regional Chairman. Seasonal permits will be approved with the following stipulations:

- a. Submitted prior to due date.
- b. Applicant is a USGF Women's Committee Member.
- c. All meets are listed with dates, sites, age groups and levels.
- d. A meet report MUST be filed.

## C. Meet Tax for Gymnast

At the discretion of the Regional Chairman, a meet tax per gymnast may be charged, not to exceed \$1. per sanctioned meet. Tax may be divided between RC and SC to further promote the USGF in their area.

## D. Gymnast Registration - Fee \$1 annually

All gymnasts must be registered with the Regional Chairman to participate in USGF meets. Registration is to include: Name, address, date of birth, level of competition. If a gymnast advances to another level within the same season, she must re-register and pay an additional \$1. All registered gymnasts are to receive a membership card. All athlete registration fees go into the Regional Account.

## VII. State Chairman Accounts are currently delinquent throughout the country.

A. Mrs. Chencinski informed us that this is a serious problem about the USGF is a nonprofit structure and all financial procedures must have accurate records kept. If the financial reporting procedures have not corrected themselves on this system of Congress next year, the Executive Board will opt to close all state accounts making RCs responsible for total regional accounting.

**VI. Regional Chairmen should undertake the writing and mailing out of a Newsletter to all their constituents bi-monthly.**

- A. This letter should include the Minutes from meetings, rule changes and other pertinent information from the National Office.
- B. State Chairman should continue to send out their Newsletters, but they should include only items of state-wide importance, i.e., meet clinic information, decisions made at the state level concerning the changes in some qualification, etc.

**IX. Mrs. Chencinski discussed the Elite Calendar changes passed by the WTC. It has been necessary to move all Elite Zone and National Qualification meets up to the date immediately preceding. All dates currently assigned to Elite meet(s) will be used, plus the inclusion of the first Zone Competition on the weekend of February 22-24. It is up to each individual Zone to decide if they are going to have individual event trials.**

**X. Sue Annemeyer gave a Report on the decisions of the Foreign Relations Committee decisions.**

- A. The FRC plans to schedule training from the past forward with a 5 year scope setting for the 1984 Olympics as the climax of their training program.
- B. It was decided that competitors from the "Champions Division", 9 to 11 year olds with a 68.8 score from their regional Competition would be allowed to go on into the East/West Championships and progress from there into the National Championships if their score placed them as the top 40.
- C. Girls will be allowed to qualify through the Age Group program at age 12 to go up into the Elite Competitive system.
- D. In the future all competitors for international competition will be selected from meet standings. There will be 3 qualification meets during each year. These 3 meets will occur in approximately October, February and May.

**XI. The Executive Board reviewed the decision of the WTC concerning State level team competitions. There will be State level team competition, but no team competition above State.**

Meeting was adjourned.

There was much interest concerning the right of the Executive Committee Board to override a decision of the WTC. An additional Meeting was called to discuss this issue. After much discussion, it was concluded that the decision would stand as made. The Executive Board will publish procedures for overriding sub-committee decisions to clarify this issue.

Submitted by, Linda Chencinski  
Conrad Maloney  
and Ruth Ann McNeill

\*Note: Ruth Ann's original Minutes were lost. These Minutes are a reconstruction to the best of her abilities. Please check carefully for omissions or errors to be corrected at Congress.

## Applications being Accepted for International Team's Coaches

The USA might not participate in the Pan-American games for 1979. All coaches who submitted applications for Pan-American Games coaches positions, will have their applications held and considered for the World Championships in 1979. Any other coach interested in applying to be a coach for the 1978 Men's or Women's team should submit their applications immediately. The first date to receive applications is April 15, 1979.

Applicants should be aware that the FRC and EEC may decide to select the World Championship Coaches and the 1980 Olympic Coaches at the same time, therefore applicants should consider accepting one or both positions as the committee may decide.

Women's applications should be sent to: Mrs. Sue Annemeyer, 97 Lombard Drive East, Wayne, New Jersey 07429.

Men's applications should be sent to: Mr. William Ruchelsh, University of Illinois at Chicago Circle, Chicago, Illinois 60607.



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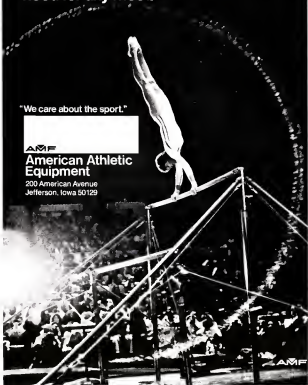
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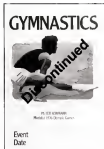
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